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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CURTIS).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 7, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN R. CURTIS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You have blessed us with all good gifts, and with thankful hearts, we express our gratitude. You have created us with opportunities to serve other people in their need, to share together in respect and affection, and to be faithful in the responsibilities we have been given.

In this moment of prayer, please grant to the Members of this people's House the gifts of wisdom and discernment, that in their words and actions they will do justice, love with mercy, and walk humbly with You.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ANONYMOUS COLUMN BY AN OFFICIAL IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, a republic can survive only as long as all political sides abide by our elections, respect our institutions, and obey our Constitution.

The anonymous column by an official in the executive branch, who bragged of deliberately thwarting the will of the people as expressed through the Presidential election, expresses a sentiment that is absolutely toxic to our form of government.

He cites no constitutional breach to thwart the lawful decisions of a legitimately elected President but only his self-righteous disdain for the man and his policies.

Well, he doesn't get to make that decision. Nobody elected him. Congress, the courts, and the American people at the ballot box can check the President, but an unelected zealot within the government cannot.

What I find most alarming is the applause for this sentiment that we hear

from the far left. We should recognize it for what it is: a direct attack on the most fundamental principle that holds us together as a free people.

HONORING FEDERAL WORKERS

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the shipyard workers and park rangers and VA nurses, Forest Service land managers, and all of our Federal workers. These are men and women who work every day to protect our Nation's security and offer vital services and grow our economy.

These men and women dedicate their working lives to the betterment of our Nation, and, sadly, just a few days ago, the President froze the pay and locality adjustments for these Federal workers.

The President has boasted that the economy is great. These workers have certainly seen their costs rise. Their housing costs are rising, and other expenses are rising.

But do you know what won't rise? Their pay. And now the President is threatening a shutdown of the government again, raising the specter of furloughing these workers again.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to reject the notion that the problem with government is the people who work in government, and I urge my colleagues to work together to fund the government, including the pay for these hard-working men and women who are our neighbors.

RECOGNIZING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE ALLEGHENY RIVER CLEANUP

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Saturday marks the start of the 10th annual Allegheny River and Watershed Cleanup, which is a weeklong effort in Warren County to keep the Allegheny River healthy and clean.

The Allegheny River is one of the Nation's most beautiful and clean waters. For more than 10 years, the waterway has been designated one of the Nation's wild and scenic rivers. It is also home to seven islands protected under America's National Wilderness Preservation System.

Every year, hundreds of people visit the river to enjoy its beauty and bounty. In 2017, 317 volunteers donated roughly 2,536 hours of their time while removing 5,350 pounds of metal, 94 tires, and 35 cubic feet of trash from the Allegheny and the Conewango Creek.

Adults and children participate in the cleanup. They walk along the riverbanks or use their canoes and kayaks to remove garbage found in or along the Allegheny River and its tributaries.

Mr. Speaker, the Allegheny River watershed is and continues to be an important recreational, ecological, and economic asset to Warren County. I commend all those who participate in this outstanding event.

HONORING WESTON CALL

(Mr. PANETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Weston Call. Weston was a beloved member of our close-knit Big Sur community in my district on the central coast of California who, unexpectedly and unfortunately, passed away in August at the young age of 32.

Weston was a fourth-generation Carmel native and a 2004 graduate of the same high school I went to, Carmel High.

Although he grew up in Carmel, Wes would give everything and do anything for the people of Big Sur.

During the 2016 Soberanes fire, he helped Big Sur neighbors fight the flames from their properties.

During the 2017 storms, when the Pfeiffer Bridge got knocked out, Wes took it upon himself to transport people from the makeshift trail around the bridge to their jobs.

And as tourist traffic has become a major problem in Big Sur, rather than complaining about it, Wes did something about it. He created a shuttle service to alleviate the congestion along Highway 1. During those rides, he would always provide a local point of view about where to go and what to do. He wouldn't share too much about our secrets, but he always stressed how sensitive we should be about the environment.

I hope that Wes' life serves as an example for all of us of how to be better

neighbors, better citizens, and better stewards of our beloved home.

RECOGNIZING CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. KNIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, during which we pay a special tribute to the children who are now fighting or who have fought the number one disease killer and second leading cause of death of children in the United States.

We also affirm our support for the families, their doctors and their nurses and the foundations that provide financial and emotional relief to those struggling with the tremendous stress of cancer treatment and rehabilitation.

One group that is particularly close to me and my family is Jack's Angels. Jack's Angels fights for dedicated research for a particularly deadly kind of pediatric cancer, DIPG, the deadliest pediatric brain cancer.

DIPG tumors are inoperable and incurable, and its victims have a 5-year survival rate of less than 1 percent. The median survival time for children diagnosed with DIPG is only 9 months.

In 2011, just after his third birthday, Jack Demeter was diagnosed with DIPG. He was given steroid medication, then radiation therapy, and was put on supplements and several tailored diets.

He was brought into clinical trials. He tried infusions. His parents took him to dozens of doctors, each of whom provided their best advice and counsel. But the science for an effective treatment for DIPG has not yet been developed. Jack passed away only 9 months after diagnosis.

For me and for Jack's Angels, finding a cure for DIPG and all other pediatric cancers will continue to be a priority.

HONORING KATHLEEN DALEY

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Kathleen Daley—a friend, a trusted colleague, and a respected member of the Riverside community.

I met Kathleen Daley when I was elected to the RCC board of trustees. As I got to know her, I realized that she and I could not be more different. She was a conservative Republican, and I am a progressive Democrat. She was a tax accountant, and, back then, I was still a public schoolteacher. But in spite of these differences, when we served on the board of trustees, we were always able to work together and put the needs of students first.

I respected her for her expertise in finance. The board trusted her to chair

the finance committee during her tenure. I admired her for her knowledge and experience, and so did my colleagues. We often unanimously supported her to be the presiding officer of the board. And I befriended her because of the dedicated person she was, because she always worked in the best interest of students.

Riverside has lost a great public servant, and I join our community in remembering Kathleen Daley's passion for student success and recognizing her contributions.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND WORK OF MAYOR GEORGE PRADEL

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart at the passing of former Naperville, Illinois, Mayor George Pradel.

Mayor Pradel was an extraordinary public servant who was universally loved. He was also a great mentor to me. Throughout my career in public service, George was always an insightful counselor and beacon of much-needed encouragement to me and to so many others, and I am very grateful for his faithful prayers for me and my family over the years.

George had a tremendous impact on every individual he met, and he himself lived an extraordinary life.

A Naperville native, George served his family, community, and country as a dedicated community catalyst, soldier, police officer, father, and mentor.

As mayor, George served Naperville for two decades, from 1995 until 2015. His tenure ushered in a period of tremendous growth. Mayor Pradel was Naperville's number one cheerleader. His unbelievable energy and exuberance were infectious.

I will miss George as a man I admired and a public servant I sought to emulate. He truly had a servant's heart.

Today, we honor a life well lived. George Pradel embraced each day by celebrating the loves of his life: his God, his family, and his community; and I know his savior welcomed him, saying: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

CONGRATULATING HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my great school districts. I have many in my congressional district, but I particularly want to cite the Houston Independent School District suffering from Hurricane Harvey and under the threat of the Texas Education Agency to be closed.

What a state of mind for parents and children, many of whom have been displaced.